

SPENCER J. COX

Lieutenant Governor

Revegetation

Inspector's Signature:

## State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER Executive Director

Division of Oil, Gas and Mining JOHN R. BAZA Division Director

## **Minerals Inspection Report**

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Reviewed

9/3/2014 Report Date: Mine Name: Pitchfork Springs/Multi-Colored Green Permit Number: S/027/0033 Mine Status: Reclaimed Operator Name: Dale Rogers Inspection Date: 08/12/2014 Permit Fees: n/a Inspector(s): Peter Brinton **Bond Amount:** \$7,000 Inspection Time: 6:30am - 7am Attendee(s): none Weather: partly overcast **Bond Escalation:** n/a Inspection Purpose: Routine inspection to check on revegetation 7/10/2012 **Prior Inspection:** Conclusions and Recommendations The reclaimed site is stable but very weedy. Revegetation standards have not been met, and it is recommended that the reclamation bond be retained. It appears that the site has not been seeded. Seeding is strongly recommended in late fall of 2014 on scarified soils using a certified seed mix approved by the BLM and the Division as a way to establish revegetation. Provide the Division with the details of your seeding job. **Elements of Inspection** Evaluated & Commented Enforcement Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds The Division will retain the reclamation surety of \$7,000 until revegetation requirements have been met. Public Safety (shafts, adits, trash, signs, highwalls) Protection of Drainages/Erosion Control No notable erosion on the graded quarry was observed, probably because of the rockiness of the slopes and the roughened surface provided by regrading. The access road (approved for post-mining access) has significant gullying. Deleterious Material Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety) The access road (to remain after reclamation is complete) is very rough due to the gullying, and access to the site is challenging. 6. Reclamation 7. Backfilling/Grading (trenches, pits, roads, highwalls, shafts) 8. Soils

The site does not meet revegetation requirements of the Division, and it is recommended that reclamation surety be retained. Much of the site is growing a fair amount of weeds, including cheatgrass, halogetan, Russian thistle, and a few others. In a few areas, rabbitbrush and a few native grasses (Indian ricegrass and apparently squirreltail) are present, but not in any significant amounts. Quite a bit of the site near the middle and top of the hill is still fairly bare (and mostly covered in loose rock), and efforts should also be made to establish good vegetation in these parts of the site. Cheatgrass is growing in some areas of loose rock.

A few unidentified taller thistle skeletons and rosettes were found, and thistle control may be needed by early to mid summer of 2015.

Seeding is recommended for the entire site on re-roughened soils in the late fall or early winter of 2014 using a seed mix approved by BLM and the Division. Documentation of the seeding effort (including the seeded species, seed tags, soil preparation/roughening, time of seeding, any photos, etc) should be kept and provided to the Division.

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CC: Dale Rogers, operator (P.O. Box 697, Delta, Utah 84624)

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Duane Bays, BLM-Fillmore (dbays@blm.gov); UTU-070681

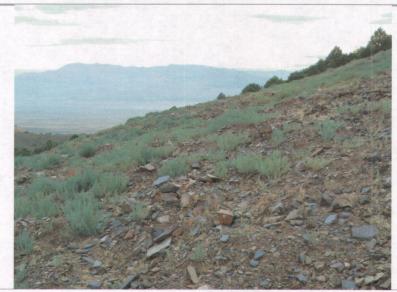
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Mine: S/027/0033 Inspected: 08/12/2014



Undisturbed areas with sagebrush mixed with some cheatgrass and native grasses at the top of the hill.



Halogetan near the bottom of the slopes, looking southwest.



The upper graded area, which is largely bare rock and some cheatgrass. Near the top, and adjacent to the undisturbed areas, there were a couple native plants.



Looking east and down the slope towards the parking area. Mostly cheatgrass, with halogetan and some spotty native shrubs (rabbitbrush) at the bottom.



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Overview of graded site with a few spots of native vegetation surrounded by cheatgrass and halogetan, primarily. Russian thistle was also present. Stitched photo.



Example of a thistle rosette and cheatgrass. Thistles control may needed in 2015.



Cheatgrass, rabbitbrush, halogetan, and Russian thistle.

